

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 2-21 are pending in the application. Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

**Objections to the specification**

Withdrawal of the objections to the specification is respectfully requested in view of the amendments thereto set forth above.

**Claim rejections**

**Section 102**

Claims 1, 3 and 15 are rejected as being anticipated by Chow et al. ("Chow"), USP 6,322,914. Claims 1 and 15 have been amended to include the limitations of claim 2 and are therefore allowable. Withdrawal of the asserted rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

**Section 103**

Claim 7 is rejected as being unpatentable over Chow in view of Yamamoto ("Yamamoto"), JP 10-172586. Claim 8 is rejected as being unpatentable over Chow in view of Yamamoto and further in view of Koumura et al. ("Koumura"), JP 2001-118596. Claim 9 is rejected as being unpatentable over Chow in view of Koumura. Claim 10 is rejected as being unpatentable over Chow in view of Zhang et al. (EP 1349225) ("Zhang"). Claims 7-10 depend on claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons discussed above. Withdrawal of the asserted rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 16, 17 and 21 are rejected as being unpatentable over Chow in view of Koumura. Claim 20 is rejected as being unpatentable over Chow in view of Koumura and further in view of Yamamoto.

Claims 16 and 21 have been amended to include the limitations of claim 2 and are therefore allowable. Claims 17 and 20 depend on claim 16 and are therefore

likewise allowable for at least that reason. Withdrawal of the asserted rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim objections

Claims 2, 4-6, 11-14, and 18-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claim 2 has been canceled. The remaining claims depend on one of independent claims 1 or 16 and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons discussed above. Withdrawal of the asserted objection is therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

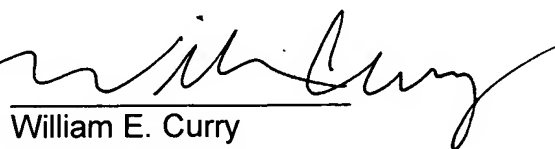
In light of the above discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in all aspects in allowable condition, and earnestly solicits favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4323 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is authorized to charge any fees related to this communication to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

  
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